

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending, with claims 1, 9, 14, 16, and 19 being independent. This response first addresses the rejection of claims 1-3 and 16-18, then the rejection of claims 14 and 15, then the rejection of claims 9, 12, and 19-21, and finally the rejection of claims 4-8, 10, 11, and 13.

Claims 1-3 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tso et al. (6,385,602). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1 and 16 recite a method (claim 1) and a computer program (claim 16) for searching different data stores based on a classification of a search term that includes receiving at least one search term and classifying the search term among at least first and second categories. When the search term is classified within the first category, the search term is compared to first electronic information within a first electronic information store to determine whether matches exist. When the search term is classified within the second category, the search term is compared to at least second electronic information within at least a second electronic information store that differs from the first electronic information store to determine whether matches exist. A result is displayed based on the matches that are determined to exist. Applicants request withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejections because Tso fails to describe or suggest a method/program for performing a search, as generally required by these claims, and because Tso therefor also fails to disclose particular features of the search recited by the claims.

Tso discloses a method for presenting the results of a search, but does not disclose aspects of actually performing the search being presented. To present the search results, Tso examines search results and dynamically establishes one or more search result categories based upon attributes of the search results. Tso, col. 3, lines 52-56. As such, after a search is performed, categories are dynamically generated by Tso based upon common attributes among the various search results.

Yet, Tso does not disclose performing a search of different data stores, as recited by claims 1 and 16. Instead, Tso discloses how to present the search results by using categories that are established after the search has been completed with no apparent regard for category.

As an apparent consequence of Tso's focus on the handling of search results, rather than on the performance of the search, Tso does not disclose receiving at least one search term, as recited in claims 1 and 16. The Office Action references step 104 of Fig. 1 in an attempt to establish that Tso discloses receiving at least one search term. However, step 104 of Fig. 1 discloses "receiv[ing] search results" (emphasis added), not a search term, as recited in claims 1 and 16.

Also as an apparent consequence of Tso's focus on the handling of search results, rather than on performance of a search, Tso fails to disclose comparing the search term to first electronic information when the search term is classified within the first category and comparing the search term to second electronic information that differs from the first electronic information when the search term is classified within the second category, as recited in claims 1 and 16. As indicated previously, Tso does not disclose details regarding performance of a search, and thus, fails to disclose performing a comparison of any search terms when the search term has been classified among different categories. Instead, after a search result has been generated, Tso discloses using common attributes from the previously-obtained search results to determine and generate categories in which to place the results. Tso, col. 2, lines 53-67 and col. 3, lines 52-56.

For at least these reasons, Applicants request withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection of claims 1 and 16, and claims 2, 3, 17, and 18 dependent therefrom.

Claims 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Belfiore et al. (6,038,610). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 14 has been amended for reasons related to grammatical clarity and not for any reasons related to patentability.

Claim 14 recites a system for storing searchable content that includes a first electronic information store having content that has been classified as non-offensive and a second electronic information store having content that has been classified as offensive. Applicants request withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejections because Belfiore fails to describe or suggest a first information store having offensive content and a second information store having non-offensive content.

Belfiore discloses using site maps to hold content-related information about hypertext documents stored at a server site. In support of the rejection, one section of Belfiore is referenced with particularity in the Office Action, namely col. 2, lines 59-65, which states:

The preferred embodiment of the present invention also provides a vehicle for integrating search results that are the product of a search at one or more web sites into the shell namespace and for providing a convenient mechanism for obtaining ratings information regarding web pages that indicate whether the web pages are suitable for younger viewers or may contain offensive content.

Yet, Belfiore fails to disclose a system for storing searchable content that includes a first electronic information store with content based on classifying the content as not offensive and a second electronic information store that includes content based on classifying the content as offensive, as recited in claim 14. In fact, the referenced portion of Belfiore describes providing integrated search results from multiple web sites that includes ratings information about the web sites. The very notion of formulating integrated search results from multiple web sites disclosed by Belfiore teaches away from the existence of two electronic information stores, which is recited by claim 14, where content classified as not offensive is stored in the first electronic information store and content classified as offensive is stored in the second electronic information store.

For at least these reasons, Applicants request withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection of claim 14, and claim 15 dependent therefrom.

Claims 9, 12, and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Tso. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 9 and 19 recite a method (claim 9) and a computer program (claim 19) for storing searchable content into more than one distinct data store that includes receiving content, classifying the content among a first electronic information store and a second electronic information store, and storing the content based on the classifying among the first electronic information store and the second electronic information store. Applicants request withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejections because Tso fails to describe or suggest a method/program for storing content in more than one distinct data store based on the classification of the content.

Tso discloses a method for presenting search results but does not disclose aspects of storing content in more than one distinct data store based on the classification of the content. To

present the search results, Tso examines search results and dynamically establishes one or more search results categories based upon attributes of the search results. Tso, col. 3, lines 52-56.

The Office Action references Tso, col. 10, lines 50-58, in an attempt to establish that Tso discloses storing the content based on the classifying among the first electronic information store and the second electronic information store. Applicants respectfully disagree because the section referenced in the Office Action merely describes a block diagram of a generic computer system.

Computer system 400 also includes a main memory 406, such as a random access memory (RAM) or other dynamic storage device, coupled to bus 402 for storing information and instructions to be executed by processor 404. Main memory 406 also may be used for storing temporary variables or other intermediate information during execution of instructions to be executed by processor 404. Computer system 400 further includes a read only memory (ROM) 408 or other static storage device coupled to bus 402 for storing static information and instructions for processor 404. A storage device 410, such as a magnetic disk or optical disk, is provided and coupled to bus 402 for storing information and instructions.

Tso, col. 10, lines 48-60. The section referenced in the Office Action simply does not disclose storing content. Moreover, that section does not disclose storing content in more than one distinct data store based on the classification of the content.

For at least these reasons, Applicants request withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection of claims 9 and 19, and claims 12, 20, and 21 dependent therefrom.

Claims 4-8, 10, 11, and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tso in view of Belfiore. Claims 4-8, 10, 11, and 13 depend from independent claims 1 and 9. For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 9, Tso fails to describe or suggest the features of claims 1 and 9. Belfiore fails to remedy the Tso shortcomings. Thus, the combination of Tso and Belfiore fails to describe or suggest the claims 1 and 9 features, or the features of the claims 4-8, 10, 11, and 13 dependent therefrom. Moreover, in view of the respective dependence upon claims 1 and 9, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection of claims 4-8, 10, 11, and 13.

Applicant : Thomas E. Davidson et al.
Serial No. : 09/749,798
Filed : December 28, 2000
Page : 6

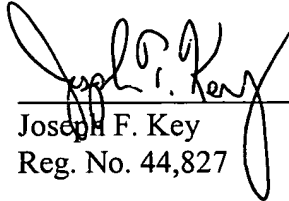
Attorney's Packet No.: 06975-146001 / Search 02

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Applicants ask that all claims be allowed. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 01/23/2003



Joseph F. Key
Reg. No. 44,827

Fish & Richardson P.C.
1425 K Street, N.W.
11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005-3500
Telephone: (202) 783-5070
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

40138087.doc

Applicant : Thomas E. Davidson et al.
Serial No. : 09/749,798
Filed : December 28, 2000
Page : 7

Attorney's Packet No.: 06975-146001 / Search 02

Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Claim 14 has been amended as follows:

14. (Amended) A system for storing searchable content, comprising:

a first electronic information store that includes content [content based on classifying the]
that has been classified as non-offensive; and

a second electronic information store that includes [content based on classifying the]
content that has been classified as offensive.